

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polynucleotide fragment of SEQ ID NO:X or a polynucleotide fragment of the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;
 - (b) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:Y or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;
 - (c) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide domain of SEQ ID NO:Y or a polypeptide domain encoded by the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;
 - (d) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide epitope of SEQ ID NO:Y or a polypeptide epitope encoded by the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;
 - (e) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:Y or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X, having biological activity;
 - (f) a polynucleotide which is a variant of SEQ ID NO:X;
 - (g) a polynucleotide which is an allelic variant of SEQ ID NO:X;
 - (h) a polynucleotide which encodes a species homologue of the SEQ ID NO:Y;
 - (i) a polynucleotide capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to any one of the polynucleotides specified in (a)-(h), wherein said polynucleotide does not hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of only A residues or of only T residues.

2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide fragment comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a secreted protein.

5 3. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide fragment comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding the sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:Y or the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X.

10 4. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide fragment comprises the entire nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:X or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X.

15 5. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises sequential nucleotide deletions from either the C-terminus or the N-terminus.

20 6. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 3, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises sequential nucleotide deletions from either the C-terminus or the N-terminus.

25 7. A recombinant vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

8. A method of making a recombinant host cell comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

30 9. A recombinant host cell produced by the method of claim 8.

10. The recombinant host cell of claim 9 comprising vector sequences.

11. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- 5 included in ATCC Deposit No:Z;
(b) a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:Y or the encoded sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, having biological activity;
(c) a polypeptide domain of SEQ ID NO:Y or the encoded sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z;
10 (d) a polypeptide epitope of SEQ ID NO:Y or the encoded sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z;
(e) a secreted form of SEQ ID NO:Y or the encoded sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z;
(f) a full length protein of SEQ ID NO:Y or the encoded sequence
15 included in ATCC Deposit No:Z;
(g) a variant of SEQ ID NO:Y;
(h) an allelic variant of SEQ ID NO:Y; or
(i) a species homologue of the SEQ ID NO:Y.

20 12. The isolated polypeptide of claim 11, wherein the secreted form or the full length protein comprises sequential amino acid deletions from either the C-terminus or the N-terminus.

25 13. An isolated antibody that binds specifically to the isolated polypeptide of claim 11.

14. A recombinant host cell that expresses the isolated polypeptide of claim 11.

30 15. A method of making an isolated polypeptide comprising:
(a) culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 14 under conditions such that said polypeptide is expressed; and
(b) recovering said polypeptide.

16. The polypeptide produced by claim 15.

17. A method for preventing, treating, or ameliorating a medical
5 condition, comprising administering to a mammalian subject a therapeutically
effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 11 or the polynucleotide of claim 1.

18. A method of diagnosing a pathological condition or a
susceptibility to a pathological condition in a subject comprising:
10 (a) determining the presence or absence of a mutation in the
polynucleotide of claim 1; and
(b) diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a
pathological condition based on the presence or absence of said mutation.

19. A method of diagnosing a pathological condition or a
susceptibility to a pathological condition in a subject comprising:
15 (a) determining the presence or amount of expression of the
polypeptide of claim 11 in a biological sample; and
(b) diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a
20 pathological condition based on the presence or amount of expression of the
polypeptide.

20. A method for identifying a binding partner to the polypeptide
of claim 11 comprising:
25 (a) contacting the polypeptide of claim 11 with a binding partner; and
(b) determining whether the binding partner effects an activity of the
polypeptide.

21. The gene corresponding to the cDNA sequence of SEQ ID
30 NO:Y.

22. A method of identifying an activity in a biological assay,
wherein the method comprises:
- (a) expressing SEQ ID NO:X in a cell;
(b) isolating the supernatant;
(c) detecting an activity in a biological assay; and
(d) identifying the protein in the supernatant having the activity.
23. The product produced by the method of claim 20.

Case	Age	Sex	Duration	Location	Findings	Diagnosis
1	10	M	10 days	Left lower leg	Ulcer, 10 cm x 5 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
2	12	F	15 days	Right lower leg	Ulcer, 8 cm x 4 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
3	14	M	20 days	Left lower leg	Ulcer, 12 cm x 6 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
4	16	F	25 days	Right lower leg	Ulcer, 10 cm x 5 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
5	18	M	30 days	Left lower leg	Ulcer, 14 cm x 7 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
6	20	F	35 days	Right lower leg	Ulcer, 12 cm x 6 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
7	22	M	40 days	Left lower leg	Ulcer, 16 cm x 8 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
8	24	F	45 days	Right lower leg	Ulcer, 14 cm x 7 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
9	26	M	50 days	Left lower leg	Ulcer, 18 cm x 9 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg
10	28	F	55 days	Right lower leg	Ulcer, 16 cm x 8 cm, with necrotic center, surrounded by erythema and induration.	Ulcer of the leg